

[illegible]

I hereby claim the benefit under 35 U.S.C. §120 of any United States application(s) or PCT international application(s) designating the United States of America that is/are listed below, and, insofar as the subject matter of each of the claims of this application is not disclosed in that/those prior application(s) in the manner provided by the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. §112, I acknowledge the duty to disclose material information as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(a) which occurred between the filing date of the prior application(s) and the national or PCT international filing date of this application:

| Prior U.S. Applications or PCT International Applications Designating the U.S-Benefit Under 35 U.S.C. §120 |                  |                          |         |           |
|--|------------------|--------------------------|---------|-----------|
| U.S. Applications  |                  | Status (Check One)       |         |           |
| Application Serial No.   | U.S. Filing Date | Patented                 | Pending | Abandoned |
|  |                  |                          |         |           |
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|  |                  |                          |         |           |
| PCT Applications Designating the U.S.  |                  |                          |         |           |
| Application No.  | Filing Date      | U.S. Serial No. Assigned |         |           |
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**CLAIM FOR BENEFIT OF PRIOR U.S. PROVISIONAL APPLICATION(S)**  
(35 U.S.C. § 119(e))

I hereby claim the benefit under Title 35, United States Code, §119(e) of any United States provisional application(s) listed below:

| Applicant | Provisional Application Number | Filing Date |
|-----------|--------------------------------|-------------|
|           |                                |             |
|           |                                |             |

**POWER OF ATTORNEY:** As a named inventor, I hereby appoint the following attorney(s) with full powers of association, substitution and revocation to prosecute this application and transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith.

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|             | RESIDENCE & CITIZENSHIP | CITY                | STATE OR FOREIGN COUNTRY | COUNTRY OF CITIZENSHIP        |
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I hereby further declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further, that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

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| Signature of Inventor 201<br><i>Yasushi Kubota</i> | Signature of Inventor 202<br><i>Hajime Washio</i> |
| Date: Jan. 5, 2001                                 | Date: Jan. 5, 2001                                |